

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

COLE, Tom (Republican)
Representative, 4th District, Oklahoma
Elected 2002 to 108th Congress



BACKGROUND

Born: Barksdale AFB, Louisiana – 28 April 1949

Home: Moore, OK

Marital status: Married (Ellen) - 1 child

Religion: Methodist

Education: Grinnell College, BA 1971; Yale Univ, MA 1974; Univ of Oklahoma, PhD 1984

Profession: Professor; Political Consultant

Military: None

Political: State Senate; Oklahoma Secretary of State, 1995-99; CoS, Republican National Committee; Exec Dir, RNCC; State Chmn, Oklahoma Republican Party. Defeated Darryl Roberts (D) gaining 54% of the vote to succeed the retiring Rep J.C. Watts (R).

Rep Cole is a conservative with close ties to Speaker Hastert who supported his successful effort to win assignment to the Armed Services Cmte where he intends to protect Tinker AFB from the next round of base closures. Supports permanent tax relief. Strong supporter of the military and veterans. Supports the Army's canceled Crusader self-propelled cannon program and a national missile defense system.

Believes in restoring school prayer and for allowing school vouchers.

Additional: Father was career Air Force and later employed as a civilian at Tinker AFB.

Brother is a 60% disabled veteran. Enrolled member in the Chickasaw Nation; Fulbright Assoc.

AF Bases: Tinker AFB

COMMITTEES

ARMED SERVICES -- Subcs on Readiness; Total Force

EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

RESOURCES